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Serial No. 10/032,843

REMARKS

1. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Examiner's comments which have greatly assisted Applicant in responding.

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2. 35 U.S.C. §101.

Claims 1-43 and 46-60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is deemed to be directed to non-statutory subject matter.

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The Examiner cited the Interim guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications for Patent Subject Matter Eligibility, published on 26 October 2005 as support for the Examiner's rejection. Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant respectfully points out that the Interim Guidelines are based on the USPTO's current understanding of the law but do not constitute substantive rulemaking. The Interim guidelines do not have the force and effect of law. (See Interim Guidelines, page 2, first two paragraphs of the Introduction.)

20

On the other hand, the Interim Guidelines explain that a practical application is claimed if the claimed invention physically transforms an article or physical object to a different state. Applicant asserts that the claimed invention recites a system/method for transforming a source database into an augmented database (transforms an article or physical object to a difference state or thing) and, as such, does not fall under the requirements for a 35 U.S.C §101 rejection.

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Nevertheless, in the spirit of compact prosecution, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to overcome the rejection. Applicant has added language directed to displaying the results of the search. Support can be found at least in the Specification, on page 33, lines 6-12.

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Serial No. 10/032,843

Independent Claim 1 and hence the dependent Claims of Claim 1 are deemed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.

5 Regarding independent Claim 20, Applicant respectfully traverses because the last two limitations clearly recite that the resulting record and value are each stored in a different database, and hence the Claim satisfies the tangible requirement.

10 Independent Claim 20 and hence the dependent Claims of Claim 20 are deemed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.

15 Independent Claim 26 has been modified to show that the results of the search are stored for further processing (such as for displaying.) Support can be found in the Specification and at least in Claims 1 and 20. Independent Claim 26 and hence the dependent Claims of Claim 26 are deemed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.

20 Applying the same rationale as hereinabove, Applicant has similarly amended independent Claims 34, 40, and 46. Independent Claims 34, 40, and 46 and hence the dependent Claims are deemed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35
25 U.S.C. §101.

3. It should be appreciated that Applicant has elected to amend the Claims solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals, 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (9/8/00).
30 In making such amendment, Applicant has not and does not in any way narrow the scope of protection to which Applicant considers the invention herein to be

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Serial No. 10/032,843

entitled. Rather, Applicant reserves Applicant's right to pursue such protection at a later point in time and merely seeks to pursue protection for the subject matter presented in this submission.

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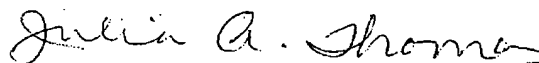
MAR 02 2007

Serial No. 10/032,843

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Applicant considers the present invention to be distinguished from the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejections raised in the above referenced Office Action, such that a Notice of Allowance is forwarded to Applicant, and the present application is therefore allowed to issue as a United States patent. The Examiner is invited to call to discuss the response. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1445.

Respectfully Submitted,



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